

From: Bill Kirtley
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 2:09pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom it may concern-

I am writing as a US taxpayer, voter, and citizen to protest the Proposed Final Judgment in the matter of the United States vs. Microsoft antitrust lawsuit.

I do not feel that the solution as proposed either punishes Microsoft for previous anticompetitive behavior, reduce the barriers to entry for vendors other than Microsoft innovating in the field, or inhibits Microsoft from engaging in monopolistic behavior in the future.

A number of well reasoned arguments have been written on the subject, and I won't revisit them here. One good one can be found at:
<http://www.kegel.com/remedy/remedy2.html>

I feel that the best way to protect the market without unduly punishing Microsoft shareholders would be to sever Microsoft into separate companies, and require that those companies interact with each other in an above-the-board way. They should use only each others published APIs. There should be clear delineation of the money being spent and earned on individual products.

Furthermore I am shocked by the timing of this agreement. The Justice Department has abandoned all attempts to preserve the appearance of enforcing the law. A cynical observer might conclude that the defendant in this case was successful in purchasing influence during the last Presidential election season.

Thank you for your attention.

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